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The Commiſſorial Decree of the Emperor, addreſſed to the General Diet at Francfort, concerning the general Tranquillity of the Empire and a Ceſſation of Arms : Dictated at Francfort, the 24th of September, 1742, by the Miniſter of the Elector of Mentz.

JOſeph William Erneſt, Prince and Landgrave of Furſtenberg, &c. Principal Commiſſary of his Imperial Majeſty Charles VII. to the preſent Diet, &c. makes known to the Miniſters, Ambaſſadors, and Envoys here preſent, on the Part of the Electors, Princes and States of the Holy Roman Empire:

That his Imperial Majeſty, ever ſince his Acceſſion to the Adminiſtration of the Empire, has at divers times teſtified the moſt tender and paternal Care he is animated with for the reſtoring of Peace and Tranquillity in the Empire ; that to this End he has not only ſeveral Times exhorted his faithful States, and applied to them in the beſt Confidence, that they would declare their Sentiments and Propoſals thereupon, and how ſo ſalutary an End might be moſt conveniently obtained, but that alſo ſo lately as on the 11th of Auguſt, on occaſion of his acquainting the Electors, Princes and States with the Approach of farther Auxiliaries ſent him by the Crown of France, and with the cogent Circumſtances which had neceſſitated him to apply to her for the Defence of his hereditary Rights, he has declared in the moſt ſolemn Manner, that notwithſtanding his true Deſire and pacifick Sentiments ſtill unalterably continue the ſame, if on the Part of the Empire ſufficient amicable Means were propoſed, how in order to avoid farther Hoſtilities, his Imperial Majeſty might be reſtored to the actual Poſſeſſion of his hereditary Dominions, and obtain an equitable Satisfaction concerning his known Rights of Succeſſion ; and if the Empire jointly with other Powers to be invited thereto, would take upon themſelves the Mediation to this End, his Imperial Majeſty would be moſt graciouſly willing on his own Part, not only to give Ear to them, but alſo to enter with the moſt peaceable Diſpoſition, into whatſoever may be proper for ſpeedily reſtoring and promoting a laſting Peace and Tranquillity : But as theſe his good Intentions merely aiming at the Good and Welfare of the Empire, by Reaſon of various Impediments, have not yet met with that Reception they deſerve, ſo the Court of Vienna, with a Spirit of Oppoſition, has endeavoured not only in an odious Manner, to caſt a Cloud over thoſe pure and ſincere Views by a circular Reſcript of the 29th of Auguſt laſt, ſent to her Miniſters reſiding at foreign Courts, and afterwards publiſhed every where in Print, with a View of miſleading the Publick, but alſo, by miſplacing and miſinterpreting the plain Expreſſions uſed in the foreſaid laſt Imperial Decree, and thus maliciouſly conſtruing them into quite another Senſe and Meaning, endeavoured to create Suſpicion and Miſtruſt between the Head and its Members.

Now, though the Invalidity of ſuch perverſe Pretences muſt ſtrike the Eyes of all the World, yet the pure Intentions of his Imperial Majeſty will ſtill appear in a ſtronger Light, by his repeating once more by theſe Preſents, that he unalterably abides by his former Reſolution, and accordingly is abſolutely determined, in order ſtill to ſtop in Time that Sourſe, from which a general War may eaſily ariſe, to the irrecoverable Damage and higheſt Diſtreſs of the Empire, and to ſpare the Effuſion of the valuable Blood of Chriſtians, to diſmiſs of his own Accord all the military Forces ſent by the Crown of France to his Aſſiſtance, and to call them back not only out of Bohemia, but alſo out of the whole Empire, conſequently to evacuate the City of Prague, together with the foreſaid whole Kingdom, and at the ſame time to cauſe all the Artillery, the Arms that were found in the Arſenals, with other military Stores, to be fully reſtored, on this expreſs Condition, that the Court of Vienna on her Part do evacuate the Capital City of Munich on the ſame Day, and in the ſame Manner as ſhall be done with Regard to Prague, and at the ſame time when the Imperial and Auxiliary Troops ſhall march out of Bohemia, and do alſo cauſe her Forces, without committing any farther Hoſtilities, to withdraw out of his Imperial Majeſty's Electoral and Hereditary Dominions, upon which no Pretenſion is formed ; as alſo, that the Arms, Artillery, and other military Stores, without Exception, that have been carried off out of his ſaid City of Reſidence and other Parts of the Country,

Country, be likewiſe returned to the reſpective Places they belong to ; furthermore, that the Auſtrian Territories in Suabia, together with the Foreſt Towns and all their reſpective Appurtenances (which is what was properly underſtood by the *previous Conceſſions inſiſted upon to be granted* in the foreſaid Imperial Decree of the 11th of Auguſt) be in the mean time and previouſly ſurrendred to his Imperial Majeſty in the State they are in at preſent, until the Differences, which to his Concern have ariſen about the Auſtrian Succeſſion, be adjuſted by a regular Congreſs and amicable Negociations for Peace there to be carried on, and Satisfaction be given to his Imperial Majeſty to his Content, for his ſo well grounded Pretenſions ; for the bringing about of which, and for the Choice of the mediating Powers, his Imperial Majeſty will confidently confer with the Court of Vienna : But above all, his ſaid Majeſty places that prevailing, plenary, and moſt gracious Confidence, in the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire, that they will not be behind-hand with their ſupreme Head, but aſſiſt him with their Advice, and in Effect, make it their unwearied and loyal Endeavour thereby, jointly with him, to ſtrengthen the Authority, Honour, and Welfare, of the Empire. Moreover, his Imperial Majeſty is unwilling to conceal, that in order to ſave Time, he has cauſed Notice to be given of this his Reſolution to the Court of Vienna by the Arch-Chancellor of the Empire, with this moſt ſolemn and equitable Reſervation, that, conſidering the advanced Seaſon, the ſaid Court is to determine herſelf within a Fortnight, and then to declare her fixed Reſolution, the rather, as his Imperial Majeſty, after the Expiration of that Term, will never be bound to that Offer, but leave a free Courſe to the Operations of the War, which beſides are not yet ſtopt, and charge all the Blame of what Calamities may enſue, to be anſwered before the Almighty and the World, by that Party which by a continued Obſtinacy has refuſed to give Ear to theſe pacifick Propoſals, which the whole impartial World cannot but acknowledge to be equitable and acceptable: His Imperial Majeſty has accordingly ſent Orders to the Generals commanding his own Forces as well as his Auxiliaries, that as ſoon as the Generals of the other Side, being ſufficiently authorized thereto, ſhall deſire it, to agree together about a reciprocal Evacuation on the Terms above-mentioned, and to bring the ſame to a ſpeedy Concluſion.

Be the Event what it will, there remains yet once and for all, this eminent Comfort to his Imperial Majeſty, that the Electors, Princes, and States of the Empire, will find themſelves, by his reiterated Declarations and ſolemn Aſſurances, fully convinced of his moſt tender Inclinations for Peace and Tranquillity, and of his having made not the leaſt Scruple, at divers Times, for promoting the Welfare and Tranquillity of the Empire, to ſet aſide his own and his Houſe's Intereſt in ſo weighty a Concern ; and his Imperial Majeſty farther aſſures the whole Empire, that in acting thus he wiſhes and deſires nothing more than after having removed all Differences, firſt to eſtabliſh a ſincere and true Union, and next to renew ſuch a confident Intelligence with the Court of Vienna, as the near Parentage in Blood and the reciprocal Intereſt, but moſt of all, the publick Welfare and internal Tranquillity of the Empire do require, *&c.*

Francfort, Sept. 24, 1742.

A circular Reſcript ſent by her Majeſty the Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, Archdutcheſs of Auſtria, &c. *to all her Miniſters at Foreign Courts, in anſwer to the repeated commiſſorial Decree of the Emperor of the* 24*th of September* 1742.

Maria Thereſia, *&c.*

A Few Days ago we received a printed Copy of *a repeated commiſſorial Decree of the Emperor* (as it is called) dictated at Francfort, on the 24th of September laſt, *concerning*, according to its Title, *the general Tranquillity of the Empire, and a Ceſſation of Arms.*

This is pretended to be partly an Explanation of the preceeding commiſſorial Decree of the 11th of Auguſt, eſpecially as to the Point of *the previous Conceſſions inſiſted upon*; partly an Anſwer to our circular Reſcript of the 29th of the ſame Month.

Now the ſaid *previous Conceſſions*, in order to a pretended Demonſtration of *thoſe eminently pacifick Sentiments* the Elector of Bavaria is animated with, are explained to this Effect, that after firſt reſerving farther *acceptable Satisfaction for the Bavarian Demands and Hereditary Rights*, pretended to be *well grounded and quite notorious*, he will, in *the mean Time, and previouſly*, be contented *with the Surrender of the Auſtrian Territories in Suabia, together with the Foreſt Towns and all their reſpective Appurtenances.*

Our circular Reſcript on the other Hand is only ſlightly touched upon, that is to ſay, the Elector contents himſelf to aſſert only in general Terms, with the ſame Facility, as we on our Side can contradict it, and this without any Proof or particular Deſignation of what is ſaid to have been *miſinterpreted* or *clouded over*, that *with a View of miſleading the Publick*, the *plain Expreſſions uſed* in the pretended commiſſorial Decree of the 11th of Auguſt, *are maliciouſly conſtrued into quite another Senſe, and* that it is *thereby endeavoured to create Suſpicion and Miſtruſt between the Head and its Members.*

But the chief Point, on which, not only according to our foreſaid Reſcript, but alſo by the ſelf-evident Nature of Things, all does turn, viz. *the Elector of Bavaria's fatal League with France*, is entirely paſſed over with a *prudent Silence* according to Cuſtom ; without doubt, becauſe the Court at Francfort was at a Loſs how to contrive it, that ſuch a League, *the undeniable Source of the irreparable Damage and utmoſt Diſtreſs brought upon the Empire*, might, tho' only in outward Appearance, be reconciled with that *tender and paternal Care for the Empire* ſo much cried up, with thoſe *good Intentions aiming at the Good and Welfare of the Empire, at the ſtrengthening its Honour, Authority, and Security*, and with that Deſire, now for the firſt Time ſet forth, of eſtabliſhing again with us *a ſincere and*

true

true Union, and that confident Intelligence ſo ſuitable to the near Parentage in Blood, and to our mutual Intereſt.

We believe, that without enlarging on former Tranſactions, and on the preſent State of Affairs, the Grounds why it is impoſſible to reconcile theſe Things, muſt needs ſtrike the Senſe of all the World; a few Reflections will confirm it in the moſt convincing Manner. For, after our Court had employed above three Years in labouring to bring the Pacification with France to a perfect Concluſion, the Peace which coſt ſo much Pains, was, before two Years were come about, perfidiouſly broken by the ſaid Crown, without the leaſt Occaſion given for it, and whilſt, as the whole World knows, all poſſible Attention was ſhewn on our Side to preſerve it.

Even a great Part of the French Nation have deteſted this Breach of Peace: How could it therefore poſſibly be preſumed from any Elector, Prince, and State of the Empire, who has the Sentiments of a German Patriot, that he will *with his Advice and in Effect* be aſſiſting to bring about, according to the iniquitous Wiſh of the ſaid Crown, ſo ſhameful an Event, as the farther reducing of our Archducal Houſe, which has the moſt ſolemn Guaranty of the Empire in its Favour, and to the greater Danger of our dear Country for the preſent and hereafter, whilſt the Almighty has viſibly bleſſed our juſt Cauſe. And yet this is, what the Propoſal contained in the pretended *repeated imperial Decree* abſolutely and palpably aims at, whilſt it rejects what we on the other Hand have ſo clearly ſuggeſted in our *repeated* circular Reſcripts, to be for the common Good and a ſufficient Expedient.

The Invalidity of the Bavarian Pretenſions, or, as they are ſtiled, hereditary Rights, has already been expoſed to the World with ſuch unanſwerable Arguments, that we muſt have a diſadvantageous Opinion of the Elector's own Diſcernment, if it could come into our Thoughts, that he himſelf had the leaſt Doubt about it. And yet, in order to ſupport ſuch unjuſt Claims, Numbers of Treaties, Guaranties, Oaths, the Golden Bull, the publick Peace enacted under ſo high Penalties, and other fundamental Laws of the Empire are violated, by introducing into it from Time to Time, above 120 Thouſand Foreign Auxiliaries, and its principal Territories are partly laid Waſte and exhauſted, partly violently exacted upon, and utterly oppreſſed. Under the Colour of ſuch empty Pretences has France for a long while acted the Maſter in the Empire, and, what Poſterity will hardly give Credit to, Belliſle's haughty Dictates have been abſolutely preferred to its fundamental Laws.

Nay, the Elector of Bavaria himſelf cannot but with inward Repentance be ſenſible of the Truth of what we ſo cordially have foretold to him, and of the Weight of the Yoke he has brought upon himſelf, if he will only recollect, in what amiable and friendly Manner not only formerly his late Imperial Majeſty our dear Father now reſting with God, but alſo we ourſelves have endeavoured to ſuggeſt to him more equitable Sentiments, and how on the contrary he has ſince been uſed by France on ſeveral Occaſions, partly contemptuouſly, partly without any Regard to the moſt ſolemn Promiſes that had been made to him. We have it in our Power more particularly and fully to convince him, the ſaid Elector, of the one and the other, by authentick Proofs; and even the Court of France will eaſily comprehend this, if ſhe will only recollect, what ſeveral Orders ſhe has iſſued ſince Circumſtances have changed.

Moved by a real good Intention, agreeably to the *near Parentage in Blood*, we have neglected nothing in proper Time for preventing theſe mutual and general Diſaſters. But the Elector, out of a Blindneſs not ſufficiently to be lamented, obſtinately confided in the pretended *generous Aſſiſtance* of France, and with the utmoſt Contempt, rejected in Favour of the Views of France, all that might have brought about *a ſincere and true Union, and a good Underſtanding and Confidence.*

It is, not becauſe we have the leaſt Reaſon to ſhun the Light, but merely out of Diſcretion, that we ſuſpend yet informing the Publick of all that has paſſed; in hopes, that at Francfort they will at laſt for once open their Eyes, and be prevailed on, firſt of all to remove that Stumbling-block, which ſtill obſtructs *our reciprocal Intereſts* together with *the common Welfare and inward Tranquillity of the whole Empire*, (as it ſeems they were inclined to do before the March of Maillebois's Army) and thereby to fulfil the Wiſhes of all German Patriots.

But as yet they are ſo far from it, that rather on the contrary, with an incomprehenſible Meanneſs quite unbecoming the Character they aſſume, every Step is there meaſured out according to the Views and Directions of the Court of France.

The Proofs of it plainly appear, even in the *repeated Commiſſorial Decree* (as it is called) iſſued there. Without waiting purſuant to *that beſt Confidence* therein alledged, for *the Sentiments and Propoſals of the faithful States* upon *the ſeveral Demands* made upon them; and without minding the clear Letter of the fourth Article of the Capitulation of Election but lately ſworn to, it was thought ſufficient to declare by way of Information to the Electors, Princes, and States, and as it were for their due Obedience, an Affair concerning which their previous Conſent ought firſt to have been obtained; and this not out of a regard to *the mutual Intereſt* and *the inward Tranquillity of the Empire*, the Language now made uſe of, for the procuring of which, moſt equitable Propoſals had been made before at the Hague, and to improve which, the whole depended on the Elector; but merely to pleaſe France, and that the ſaid Crown might not be abridged of the Means for farther diſtreſſing our dear Country.

The foreſaid Propoſals abſolutely aimed, not only at the freeing of Germany from the Burthen it then groaned under, but alſo at preſerving it for a long time to come againſt ſo great an Evil as it had notoriouſly felt, ſince ſuch a Number of foreign Auxiliaries had marched into it; and whereas evident Experience has ſhewn,

that

that Treaties, Guaranties, and Oaths, be they drawn up in ever ſo binding Terms, are abſolutely inſufficient for procuring any Security to the Empire, and eſpecially to its Circles that lie moſt expoſed, the Intention of the ſaid Propoſals was, to eſtabliſh that Security upon a ſafer Foot, not only without any Prejudice to the Elector of Bavaria, but even to his own Advantage, if he only would entertain Sentiments becoming a German Patriot.

On the other ſide again it is propoſed to provide for *the general Tranquillity of the Empire*, merely by *a Ceſſation of Arms*, and this is to be ſuch a one as would furniſh France with a greater facility than ſhe has now to execute Belliſle's known Schemes for ſubverting the Conſtitution of the Empire, and oppreſſing the publick Liberty.

Inſtead of the *tender and paternal Care for the Empire*, which is ſo much ſounded abroad, having for it's Object *the Authority, Honour, and Welfare* of it; the ſame is merely calculated on one hand, to procure for the preſent to thoſe Foreign Auxiliaries, now deeply engaged in the Heart of the Empire, all poſſible Security; and on the other, to facilitate to them the Execution of thoſe Deſigns, which they cannot ſo well accompliſh now, but may do then with leſs Danger when ever they pleaſe: This is the palpable Aim of the pretended Demand, that *in the mean time and previouſly*, with a Reſervation of *a farther acceptable Satisfaction for* thoſe imaginary *Hereditary Rights, the Auſtrian Territories in Suabia, together with the Foreſt Towns, and their reſpective Appurtenances, be delivered up.* No body can be ſo ſimple or infatuated, as not to comprehend the Tendency of all this: And though one ſhould overlook the Advices received from ſeveral Parts, that the main Subſtance of the Commiſſorial Decree that has newly made its Appearance, was carried to Francfort by a Courier diſpatched purpoſely by the Court of France, and there only received the uſual Shape; yet it is ſufficient, to compare with the Contents of it, the Anſwer which was a little before given at Paris to Count Steinville, which goes herewith incloſed, in order to feel as it were at the firſt Touch, that what is iſſued at Francfort, is abſolutely meaſured by the Dictates, Directions, and Views of the Court of Verſailles. Who therefore will look upon ſuch a blind Submiſſion as a Mark of a *tender and paternal Care for reſtoring Peace and Tranquillity in the Empire*, or believe, that, as long as at Francfort, out of an incomprehenſible Blindneſs, they are unwilling to ſhake off an inſupportable foreign Yoke, they have any real Intention there for *eſtabliſhing a ſincere Union with us*, and at the ſame time *the Honour, Authority, and Welfare of the Empire.*

Notwithſtanding the Treatment we have met with from the Elector of Bavaria, who has ſet aſide, in a manner notorious to the World, *the Tie of near Parentage in Blood*, and the Regard due to us by our Birth and Dignity; yet we are not averſe to ſuch a Reconciliation, as is grounded upon our *mutual*, but not the ſeparate French *Intereſt*, jointly with *the general Welfare and inward Tranquillity of the Empire.* We cannot, nor ever will ſeparate ourſelves from England and our other faithful Allies; but it only depends on the Elector of Bavaria, to continue the Negociations, begun at the Hague, even at his own Intimation, which we will certainly and moſt ſincerely forward as far as is conſiſtent with the Safety of our own Archducal Houſe, and with the publick Security and Welfare of the Empire, according to what we have already ſufficiently declared in our former circular Reſcripts. Conſequently the unhappy Conſequences of that Obſtinacy ſtill continuing on the other ſide beyond Expectation, will never be aſcribed to us, ſo much the leſs as over and above all that we have already declared at divers Times, we ſtill offer confidently to communicate to the Elector the Proofs of all that is above ſaid, and will never be wanting in what depends on us, to free him from thoſe ſhameful foreign Fetters, which he wears. It is impoſſible for us to give plainer Marks of our Deſire for a ſincere Reconciliation; and though it is hoped that theſe *plain Expreſſions* will not be looked upon at Francfort as obſcure, yet it depends on the Court there, fully to convince themſelves thereof, under the Mediation of England and of other Powers, who in ſo commendable a Manner have the Balance of Europe at Heart, provided this Expedient be not again rejected.

And ſo, there cannot any farther Doubt remain with any one, which Party has that *eminent Comfort* of having truly at Heart the Proſperity of our dear Germany, which till now was never reckoned to depend on the promoting of French Views.

In repreſenting and enforcing all that is above, you fulfil our gracious Will, and we remain, *&c.*

Vienna, October 8, 1742, *N. S.*

Anſwer to Count Steinville.

IT is above a Month ago, that the Reſolution which the King took of ſending a new Army into the Empire was made publick, and it depended entirely upon the Court of Vienna to have put a Stop to its March, and to have ſpared the Blood which has been ſhed at Prague, if it had been in pacifick Diſpoſitions. The King finding himſelf therefore, by the Silence of the Court of Vienna, under a Neceſſity of ſuffering the Army under the Command of Marſhal Maillebois, which is now in the 37th Day of its March, and upon the Point of entering into Bohemia, to advance, the King and the Emperor might hold themſelves diſengaged from all their Promiſes. Nevertheleſs, his Majeſty, preferring Peace to all other Conſiderations, would have made no Difficulty of accepting the Propoſitions made by M. Steinville in the Name of the Great Duke, flattering himſelf that he would not have been diſavowed by the Emperor, if the Reſtitution and the peaceable Poſſeſſion of Bavaria, together with the Evacuation of the City of Paſſau, had been offered at the ſame Time, and if the

the Court of Vienna had contented itſelf with demanding the Evacuation of Bohemia, ſince it belonged to the Head of the Empire only to require that the King ſhould cauſe his Troops to repaſs the Rhine. There's Room to hope that the Court of Vienna will be convinced of the Truth of theſe Reflexions; and as Time is precious, and it is eſſential to prevent ſuch Changes of Circumſtances, as might render the Means of a Reconciliation more difficult, the King will addreſs this very Day his Orders and Inſtructions to the Marſhals Broglio and Belliſle, if the Courier, who will be the Bearer thereof, may be ſuffered to paſs, for agreeing upon the Form of evacuating Bohemia by the Army now in Prague, as well with Regard to the Route that it muſt take, as to the Subſiſtance which it will have Occaſion for, and to the Facilities that ſhall be thought neceſſary for the Tranſport of Ammunition and Proviſions, and in general of all the Effects which belong to the King, or to the Officers of his Troops, upon Condition that the like Orders on the Part of the Queen of Hungary ſhall be tranſmitted to the Marſhals Broglio and Belliſle for the Reſtitution and peaceable Poſſeſſion of Bavaria, and for the Evacuation of the City of Paſſau, that they may ſend them to Marſhal Maillebois, who will forward them directly to M. Khevenhuller: His Majeſty promiſing farther, that Marſhal Maillebois ſhall have Orders to diſcontinue his March towards Bohemia, and retire out of it, in caſe he ſhould have entred it, as ſoon as he ſhall have received Information from the Marſhals Broglio and Belleiſle that every thing is agreed upon. His Majeſty deſires very ſincerely, that theſe Preliminaries may ſpeedily produce a ſolid Peace, and to this End his Majeſty wiſhes above all Things to be able to contribute.

Florence, October 15, *N. S.* The laſt Accounts from the Romagna are, that on the 6th Inſtant, the firſt Column of the Spaniſh Troops commanded by the Duke d'Atriſco arrived at Forli, and proceeded immediately by continued forced Marches to Faenza, with a View, as it is ſuppoſed, to intercept the Auſtrian Cavalry, which was poſted at Bagnacavallo, Lugo and Cotignolo, in the Neighbourhood of Faenza, under the Command of General Payersbach. The Duke d'Atriſco was joined the ſame Day by M. de Gages, and on the 7th by Count Mariani with the third Column; but all this Hurry and Fatigue of their Troops was rendered ineffectual by the timely Retreat of M. Payersbach. The Spaniards were expected on the 12th at Caſtel Bologneſe, but whether to continue their March towards Bologna, or to retire into the Ferrareſe, was uncertain. As the Auſtrian Cavalry, conſiſting only of 2400 Horſe, to which was added 300 Croatians, had been detached ſolely with a View of preventing the Spaniards being ſupplied with Proviſions from the Ferrareſe, they were forced to retire on the Approach of the Spaniſh Army, and have joined M. de Traun at Buon Porto. We are not yet informed whether the latter deſigns to paſs the Panaro, but Letters are expected from the Army this Evening. In the mean time Preparations are making here for the Reception of Part of the Troops from Leghorne; the firſt Column departs from thence the 16th, and is to be followed two Days after by the ſecond. Many Letters from Naples and Rome have mentioned a Suſpicion that the King of the two Sicilies deſigns to reinforce M. de Gages with two Regiments of Horſe, which the King of Spain formerly lent him, and that they were marched to Rieti for this Purpoſe. Capt. Osborn, of the Salisbury, who has been appointed by Vice-Admiral Matthews for the Service at Leghorn, remains there with three Ships.

Whitehall, October 1, 1742.

Whereas it has been repreſented to his Majeſty, that on Tueſday the Thirty Firſt Day of Auguſt laſt, about Eleven or Twelve o'Clock at Night, Mr. Iſaac Decker, Commander of the Cutter in the Service of the Cuſtoms at Colcheſter, chaſed another Cutter off Felixtow, in the County of Suffolk, Thomas Cobby, Maſter, ſuppoſed to be laden with Run Goods, which Cutter made cloſe for the Shore; and that the Officers purſuing her, were met by thirty or forty Smugglers armed, who kept a conſtant Fire at them, and killed John Mills, one of the Mariners belonging to the Cuſtom-houſe Cutter. For the better diſcovering and bringing to Juſtice the Perſon or Perſons who committed the ſaid Murder, his Majeſty is pleaſed to promiſe his moſt gracious Pardon to any one of them (except the Perſon that actually killed the ſaid John Mills) who will diſcover his Accomplice or Accomplices, ſo as he or they may be apprehended and convicted thereof. HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

And as a further Encouragement for ſuch Diſcovery, his Majeſty is pleaſed to promiſe a Reward of Fifty Pounds to any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, who ſhall make the ſaid Diſcovery, payable by the Receiver-General of his Majeſty's Cuſtoms, on the Conviction of one or more of the ſaid Offenders, over and above what he or they are intitled to by Act of Parliament.

General Poſt Office, London, July 3, 1742.

Whereas divers Perſons, thro' Ignorance or Careleſneſs, frequently put Letters into the General Poſt Offices, and the Receiving Houſes both in Town and Country, directed on board of Ships, and to Foreign Parts, without paying at the ſame Time the Poſtage, as ought to be done; And whereas Letters and Packets are often put into the ſaid Offices with Money and Rings incloſed, and in Fraud of his Majeſty's Revenue, divers Perſons preſume to ſend Letters with falſe and counterfeit Franks;

This is to acquaint the Publick, that no Letters under any of the Circumſtances aforeſaid have any Right by Law to be forwarded.

Note, That Letters going out of Great Britain (except to France, Holland, and Flanders) have by the ancient Uſage of this Office paid the Foreign Poſtage, and

† a Miſtake in Printing

THIS is to give Notice, That on Saturday the 16th Day of October Inſtant, William Pike, of Coleſhill, in the County of Berks, Yeoman, was, in the common Highway leading from Burford in the County of Oxford, to Coleſhill aforeſaid, at or near a Place called Signet, in the Hundred of Farringdon, and in the Pariſh of Burford aforeſaid, about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon of the ſame Day, aſſaulted and robbed, by one Man on Horſeback, who then and there took from the ſaid William Pike, Fourteen Guineas, and an half Guinea in Gold, and Ten Shillings in Silver; which ſaid Man ſeemed, to the ſaid William Pike, to be about Thirty Years of Age, and then had on a light colour'd Wig, and a light colour'd looſe Great Coat, and rode on a Sorrel Mare about Fourteen Hands and a half high, with a cut Tail and a lank Belly.

TO be ſold, purſuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, before William Spicer, Eſq; one of the Maſters of the ſaid Court, Nine Hundred and Fifty Pounds Bank Stock, ſubject to a Moiety of an Annuity of Fifty Pounds per Annum, payable to Mrs. Patience Uſher for her Life. Particulars whereof may be had at the ſaid Maſter's Chambers in Lincoln's Inn, London.

TO be ſold, together or in Parcels, purſuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, before Samuel Burroughs, Eſq; one of the Maſters of the ſaid Court, at his Chambers in Chancery Lane, Several Eſtates, late the Eſtates of William Bave, of the City of Briſtol, Gent. deceaſed, ſituate at Lanvihangell Torrymonyth, in the County of Monmouth; at South Brent in the County of Somerſet; in Milk Street, Roſemary Lane, and the Horſe Fair, in the Pariſh of St. James in the City of Briſtol; and at Itchington in the County of Glouceſter. Particulars whereof may be had at the ſaid Maſter's Chambers.

PUrſuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, the Creditors of Craven Peyton, late of Nutfield, in the County of Surry, Eſq; deceaſed, are forthwith to come in and prove their Debts before Samuel Burroughs, Eſq; one of the Maſters of the ſaid Court, at his Chambers in Chancery Lane, otherwiſe they will be excluded the Benefit of the ſaid Decree.

WHereas a Commiſſion of Bankrupt is awarded and iſſued forth againſt William Fitche, late of Rothwell otherwiſe Rowell, in the County of Northampton, Tallow Chandler, Grocer and Chapman, and he being declared a Bankrupt, is hereby required to ſurrender himſelf to the Commiſſioners in the ſaid Commiſſion named, or the major Part of them, on the 2d and 10th of November next, and on the 7th of December following, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, on each of the ſaid Days, at Guildhall, London, and make a full Diſcovery and Diſcloſure of his Eſtate and Effects; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, and at the ſecond Sitting to chuſe Aſſignees, and at the laſt Sitting the ſaid Bankrupt is required to finiſh his Examination, and the Creditors are to aſſent to or diſſent from the Allowance of his Certificate. All Perſons indebted to the ſaid Bankrupt, or that have any of his Effects, are not to pay or deliver the ſame but to whom the Commiſſioners ſhall appoint, but give Notice to Mr. Fell, Attorney, in Grays-Inn, London.

WHereas a Commiſſion of Bankrupt is awarded and iſſued forth againſt Thomas Cotton, late of Rolls Buildings, in the County of Middleſex, Scrivenner and Broker, and he being declared a Bankrupt, is hereby required to ſurrender himſelf to the Commiſſioners in the ſaid Commiſſion named, or the major Part of them, on the 3d and 8th of November next, and on the 7th of December following, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon on each of the ſaid Days, at Guildhall, London, and make a full Diſcovery and Diſcloſure of his Eſtate and Effects; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, and at the ſecond Sitting to chuſe Aſſignees, and at the laſt Sitting the ſaid Bankrupt is required to finiſh his Examination, and the Creditors are to aſſent to or diſſent from the Allowance of his Certificate. All Perſons indebted to the ſaid Bankrupt, or that have any of his Effects, are not to pay or deliver the ſame but to whom the Commiſſioners ſhall appoint, but give Notice to Mr. Nathaniel Neal, Attorney in Nag's Head Court, Grace Church Street, London.

WHereas a Commiſſion of Bankrupt is awarded and iſſued forth againſt Matthias Jackſon, of the City of Norwich, Beer Brewer, and he being declared a Bankrupt, is hereby required to ſurrender himſelf to the Commiſſioners in the ſaid Commiſſion named, or the major Part of them, on the 23d and 24th of November next, and on the 7th of December following, at Three in the Afternoon on each of the ſaid Days, at the Houſe of Thomas Allday, called the King's Head in the Market Place in Norwich aforeſaid, and make a full Diſcovery and Diſcloſure of his Eſtate and Effects; when and where the Creditors are to come prepared to prove their Debts, and at the ſecond Sitting to chuſe Aſſignees, and at the laſt Sitting the ſaid Bankrupt is required to finiſh his Examination, and the Creditors are to aſſent to or diſſent from the Allowance of his Certificate.

THE Commiſſioners in a Commiſſion of Bankrupt awarded and iſſued forth againſt Peter Higginſon, late of Warrington, in the County of Lancaſter, Innholder and Victualler, intend to meet on the 18th of November next, at Two in the Afternoon, at the Houſe of Jared Leigh, being the Red Lion Inn in Warrington aforeſaid, in order to make a Dividend of the ſaid Bankrupt's Eſtate; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, are to come prepared to do the ſame, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the ſaid Dividend.

THE Commiſſioners in a Commiſſion of Bankrupt awarded and iſſued forth againſt Joſeph Baker, late of London, Merchant, ſurviving Partner of John Nutt, late of London, Merchant, deceaſed, intend to meet on the 10th Day of December next, at Three in the Afternoon, at Guildhall, London, in order to make a final Dividend of the ſaid Bankrupt's Eſtate; when and where the Creditors who have not already proved their Debts, are to come prepared to do the ſame, or they will be excluded the Benefit of the ſaid Dividend.

WHereas the acting Commiſſioners in the Commiſſion of Bankrupt awarded againſt William Oſwald, of London, Merchant, have certified to the Right Honourable Philip Lord Hardwicke, Baron of Hardwicke, Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, that the ſaid William Oſwald hath in all Things conformed himſelf according to the Directions of the ſeveral Acts of Parliament made concerning Bankrupts: This is to give Notice, That by Virtue of an Act paſſed in the Fifth Year of his preſent Majeſty's Reign, his Certificate will be allowed and confirmed as the ſaid Act directs, unleſs Cauſe be ſhewn to the contrary on or before the 16th of November next.

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and are required by the Act of Parliament so to do, at the Office in Great Britain where the same are first put in.

Note also, That if such Letters to Foreign Parts are put into any of the Country Offices, the Inland Postage of such Letters to London must also be paid on putting the same into such Office.

By Command of the Post Master General,
George Shelvocke, *Secretary.*

General Post-Office, London, Sept. 29, 1742.

POST CHAISES between London and Bath.

This is to acquaint the Publick, that the several Post-masters on the Road between London and Bath, are ready to furnish any Gentlemen, or others, with Post Chaises, safe, easy, and well secured from the Weather, with a Lamp to give sufficient Light in dark Nights, upon as short Warning as for Post Horses, any Hour either in the Day or Night. And farther Notice is hereby given, that whereas the Distance between Marlborough and Bath, has never yet been considered as Post Road, it will be computed at Thirty four Miles, according to Tompion's Measurement between those two Places. Gentlemen who have Occasion to go Post on the Bath Roads, are desired to apply to Mr. Miller, Post-master, at the White Bear in Piccadilly.

N. B. A Post Chaise may be had at any of the Stages on the Bath Road, to go Part or all the Way, for one or more Stages, for those who do not chuse to travel in the Night. By Command of the Post-Master-General,
Geo. Shelvocke, *Secretary.*

Admiralty-Office, Sept. 24, 1742.

Notice is hereby given, that a Session of Oyer and Terminer and Goal Delivery, for the Tryal of Offences committed on the High Seas within the Jurisdiction of the Admiralty of England, will be held on Tuesday the 9th Day of November next, at Justice-hall in the Old Baily, London, at Eight of the Clock in the Morning. Tho. Corbett.

The Committee for letting the City's Lands in the Account of the Chamberlain of the City of London, give Notice, that they intend to lett by several Leases, the following Lots for a Term of 21 Years, viz. No 1. One Messuage or Tenement, a Warehouse and Vaults in Mincing-lane, in the Occupation of Mr. Isaac Hughes, Merchant. No 2. One Messuage or Tenement, a Warehouse and Vault, adjoining to the above, in the Occupation of Mr. Francis Arbine, Merchant. No 3. A Shop in Leadenhall street, under Part of Leadenhall, in the Occupation of Mr John Fryer. No 4. One Messuage or Tenement in Rope makers Alley in Finsbury, in the Occupation of Mr. Goodwin, with a Meeting-house and Garden adjoining thereto. No 5. One Messuage or Tenement, and Garden, with two Stables containing 15 Stalls, Part in Chiswell-street, and Part in Finsbury upper Yard, in the several Occupations of Mr. Thomas Willimott and Mr. Lawrence Robinson. No 6. A Stable in the White Horse Yard in Chiswell-street aforesaid, containing 22 Stalls, and a Kitchen there, in the Occupation of Mr. Henry Horne, with a small Shop in Front next the said Street. No 7. One Messuage or Tenement, with two Coach houses and three Stables containing 18 Stalls, in the White Horse Yard aforesaid, in the several Occupations of Mr. John Abery and Mr. Henry Horne. No 8. One Messuage or Tenement and Farriers Shop in Finsbury Lower Yard, in the Occupation of Mr. Joshua Cartwright, Part of a Coachmaker's Shop and Rooms over in Front next Moorfields, in the Occupation of Mr. Justis Olney, and a Stable with six Stalls, in the Occupation of Mr. William Hastings, known by the Sign of the Dog and Bear. And that the said Committee will sit in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, London, on Wednesday next, the 27th Day of October, at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon, to receive Proposals for the same: Of which further Information and printed Particulars may be had at the Comptroller's Office in the Guildhall aforesaid: On which said printed Particulars all Persons bidding for the above Lots are to write their Proposal.

Assurance Office, Serjeants-Inn, Oct. 26, 1742.

A General Quarterly Court of the Corporation of the Amicable Society for a perpetual Assurance Office, will be held at their House in Serjeants Inn, Fleet-street, on Thursday the 4th of November next, at Eleven of the Clock in the Forenoon..

Robert Michel, *Register.*

Advertisements.

On Friday the 10th of December (at Five in the Evening) will begin

A COURSE of MEDICAL LECTURES, comprising the Laws of the ANIMAL OECONOMY; the Nature of Diseases; and the most proper Indications both to restore HEALTH, and preserve that invaluable Blessing.

By Dr. *Nicholas Robinson,*

At his House in the Royal College of Physicians, London. Subscriptions, for the Course, are taken in by Mr. Hopson, Apothecary, in Coleman-street; Mr. Rivington, Bookseller, in St. Paul's Church-yard; Mr. Sanby, at the Ship without Temple Bar; Mr. Nelthrop, Apothecary, in Westminster; and by the Author at his House aforesaid. At which Places a general Scheme of the Lectures may be had.

Now Publishing,

The third and last Volume in Folio, to compleat those Gentlemens Setts who already have the two former Volumes, of,

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N. B. Such Subscribers to the two first Volumes as have paid their first Payment, and not fetch'd away their Books, are desired to do it forthwith.

TO be peremptorily sold, pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, before Edmund Sawyer, Esq; one of the Masters of the said Court, at his Chambers in Lincoln's Inn, London, on Friday the 12th Day of November next, between the Hours of Four and Six of the Clock in the Afternoon, A Farm called Wykes Farm, in the Parish of Lower Gussage, in the County of Dorset, now lett to William Brewer, at 120 Pounds per Annum. Particulars whereof may be had at the said Master's said Chambers.

THIS